

ECHOES OF YESTERDAY

Summit County Centennial History

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PUBLISHED BY
DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS
OF
SUMMIT COUNTY
1947

Francis History

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It was considered bad to eat choke cherries and then drink milk as this would cause severe cramps.

A few years later in case of severe sickness a messenger on horseback was dispatched to Park City for Dr. LeCompte or Dr. Gregor.

The first doctor in Kamas was Dr. Lawrence. Others were Dr. Lynch, Dr. Redden, Dr. Dannenberg, Dr. Laffoon, Dr. Allen, Dr. Robinson, Dr. E. G. Wright. Our present doctor is Dr. Bingham.

Midwives were Mrs. Corbett, and Ann Marshall who used to come from Bountiful and Mrs. Johnson who came from Oakley.

Our only resident-dentist is Dr. Charles F. Wherritt, who is practicing at present.

SOIL

Soil, climate and an abundance of water combine to make this a good place for the farmer. Barley yields forty to sixty bushels to the acre; wheat about the same; oats, fifty to eighty bushels; hay to five tons to the acre.

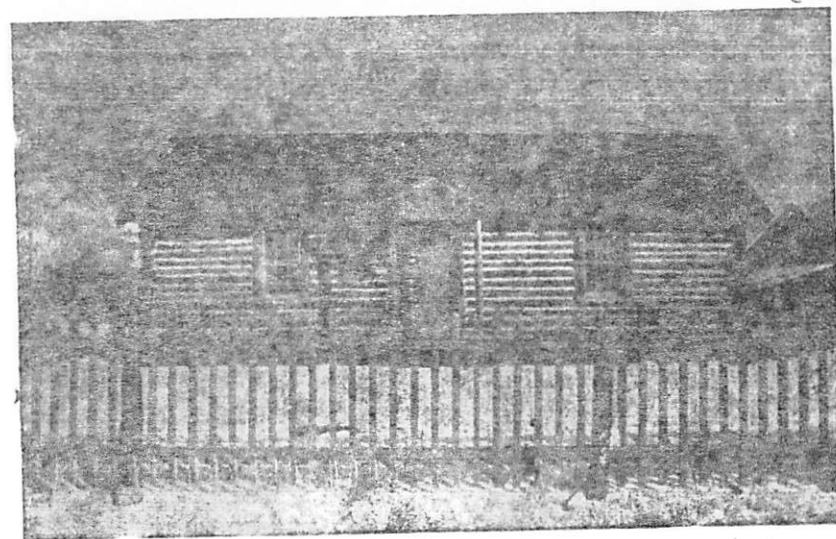
At present Mr. Lister, a Soil Conservation employee, is here to help us with suggestions as to the best kinds of grasses and grains to be grown on our ground and irrigated land which will no doubt be the cause of a much greater yield.

FOREST SERVICE

Kamas has been for some years the headquarters of the Wasatch National Forest. A man by the name of George Bucher was sent by the government from Illinois as supervisor. At present the forest service is maintained here with Kenneth Maughan, chief ranger. The Kamas Ranger station and Forest Service office are located one block East of Main street on a lot purchased from the Kamas Relief Society.

Kamas is the gateway to the high Uintah mountains and the Granddaddy Lake region and thousands of tourists pass through here every year.

Kamas has a prosperous present and a promising future.



Erected August 27, 1937
Rhoades Valley Relic Hall on site of
RHOADES VALLEY FORT

"Erected 1866-67 for protection against hostile Indians. Was 30 rods square with walls 16 feet high built of logs that formed the back walls of the houses, with gates in the east and west walls. There were about 47 families who lived in this fort from the time of its erection until it was abandoned about 1870. The town of Kamas (Rhoades Valley) was surveyed and divided into lots 1869-70.—Rhoades Valley Camp, Summit County." (Marker Inscription)

FRANCIS

Francis History Compiled by
Grace H. Lemon and Pearl W. Atkinson
EARLY SETTLERS

Charley Woodard was one of the early settlers of Francis, coming into Kamas when he was fifteen years old. From him we found that Samuel Gines, Solen Sorensen, and Quince Alexander were the first settlers on the bench, coming here in about 1865. Thomas Davis came here about the same time or a little earlier, also Charley Russell and George Reynolds.

However, before this, according to Mr. Alma Warr, who was an early settler of Kamas, in 1865 a young Englishman



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by the name of John Williams was the first man to build a cabin on the bench, south of Kamas Fort. He built this cabin by the spring, where later Oscar Eskilson built his cabin.

From Oscar Eskilson's diary we learn that he came here with his father when he was four years old and lived by the spring at the foot of the Lemon dugway. That was in 1862. They lived here two years and then moved into Kamas and then to Wanship. When Mr. Eskilson was a man twenty-one years of age he came back to Francis in 1879, and built a one room log cabin by the spring where Mr. Williams had lived. There, Mr. Eskilson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. This spring came to be known as the Eskilson Spring. Later when the town was laid out and roads were made, this log house was moved west to the road. As his family grew, more rooms were added and rustic was put over the logs and painted. Mr. Eskilson lived here until he died in 1937. The home now belongs to Mrs. Randall, his daughter, and the one room log cabin is the living room of the Randall home.

There was no water on the bench except for a few small springs and these were insufficient for irrigation. In 1865 on the Tommy Davis homestead a well was dug one hundred and ten feet deep but they found no water. This well was dug by William Atkinson and years later this well was still open, protected only by three poles placed in pyramid shape and held together at the top by a rope wound around them. Mothers had to keep watch over their children to keep them from playing near it. Gradually the walls caved in and the well became filled with earth again.

Mrs. Ettie Gines says she remembers Mrs. Davis telling how she took her clothes down to the Provo River to wash them, they also had to have all of their culinary water from the river.

William Gines, a son of Samuel Gines, now living in Kamas said he remembers his mother telling him that the water first started to run on the bench from the Provo River the day he was born, August 7, 1873; and that she was so happy she felt like getting out of bed to see the water run. Up until this time little farming was done on the bench.

About the time that Mr. Eskilson came here, Minz Lark, Jack Richardson, Ruby Green, and Sanford Green built homes

on the Provo River in Knight's Hollow. In 1880 the country was surveyed and marked off in sections. People began moving in faster. Parley Neeley lived on what is now the Auerback Ranch—they lived there until a Scarlet Fever Epidemic swept the community and they lost two children. Mrs. Neeley so dreaded the place that they moved on to the bench.

Bill Pace, Abraham Hunter, Isac Hunter Sr., Isac Hunter Jr., Ray Hunter, Wm. Smith, John Smith (later known as John O. Driscoll), and Henry Smith were others who came by 1880, also Louie Strasberg, a Mr. Johnson, Mr. Burningham, Mr. Ashley, Barney Evans, Henry Suddter, Charley Woodard and Jed Woodard.

By 1883 Jack Richardson had moved on to the bench. We find also, Adam Paul, Nathen Neibour, Hyrum Workman, and B. F. Redmon.

In the 1890's Wm. Prescott, Dan Mitchell, Samuel Corbett, Francis Corbett, Marion Corbett, H. Gines, James Prescott, Amos Atkinson, Henry Atkinson, Alma Page, Wm. Woolstenhulme, Tom Naylor, Mr. Kirkham and Mr. Jones moved into Francis.

MIDWIVES

Mrs. Simantha Russell was the first midwife in Francis. She, with her husband, Charly, came to Francis about 1880; they built a log cabin at the east of Francis, in a hollow by a spring next to the foot hills; and homesteaded a tract of land. This house was later turned to face the road when permanent roads were built but it still stands today as part of the home of Ada Prescott.

Sister Russell was a licensed midwife and also studied in the profession of medicine so



Simantha Russell



was a very capable person in all kinds of sickness. She did most of her work in Francis and Woodland but went wherever she was called. One could always depend that she would be there on the job and ready to take charge when she was needed. She took care of her own people until her death.

She delivered many babies and eased much suffering wherever she went. In 1893 she helped to bring into the world her granddaughter, Edith Woodard. This was her last confinement case, for shortly after this she became ill and died.

Comelia Corbett came to the valley in about 1886. She was a very good and kind woman. She studied under Dr. Shippo in Salt Lake and was a licensed midwife. When she came to the valley she settled in Francis and practiced midwifery for twenty years or more. She still kept working, even after the doctors came into the valley.

Women went through childbirth at that time with no anesthetic but she did everything she could to help. The first thing sister Corbett gave to a woman when she came to take over in a confinement case was three tablespoons of castor oil in as much whisky, then her feet were put in hot water to hurry things along. A pint of whiskey was always a must on her order of supplies for women to have. In her later practice she used chloroform.

Sister Corbett was willing to go by any conveyance to help the sick. Some came for her on horseback, some on running gears, some in wagons, some in sleighs. She traveled from Bench Creek to Wanship in any kinds of weather. After she was able to buy a buggy she traveled in that, drawn by one horse.

After the child was born she would return to the home every morning for ten days to take care of the mother and child. For all this service she charged ten dollars and that could be paid in produce or anything she could use in her home.

Sister Corbett also was very good in other sickness, when she went to a home she would stay and help until the patient either died of the ailment or was on the way to recovery. People said that she was surely an Angel of Mercy. In all of

her practice she lost but two mothers and babies.

Many a mother and baby owe their lives to Aunt Ellie Prescott. Sister Elvira Prescott came into the valley about 1890 and settled in Francis. She was not a midwife, but she assisted the midwives and doctors in their work. Aunt Ellie surely was a born nurse for she had the ability of soothing and quieting her patient. When anyone was ill they always went for Aunt Ellie, as she was called by everyone. People felt that if she could be with them everything would be alright. She went any time of the day or night and stayed with the sick until they were on the way to recovery. Her daughter said that more often than not her mother would not be home when she returned from school, but off nursing the sick. Her husband was willing and helped so that she could carry out her work of mercy among her people.

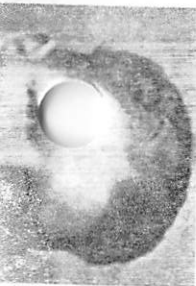
It is estimated that she helped to bring more than three hundred babies into the world in her life time. These, she washed and dressed for the first time. For these services she never received a penny in recompense.

As president of the Relief Society she saw that the needy of the ward had their wants administered to. She worked in the Relief Society for over twenty years. She did all this work while she was rearing a family of eleven children and after her son's wife died, leaving five small children, she took them to raise.

While helping in the confinement of a granddaughter, at the age of seventy-seven, she suffered a stroke and this ended her service as a nurse. She died in 1941 at the age of eighty-two, beloved and mourned by the whole community and adjoining towns.

Mrs. Jane Swift Van Tassel was another woman in the valley who did a lot of nursing and acted as midwife on many occasions. She lived out on Bench Creek but worked all over the valley. She had a very interesting life. She was born in South Africa in 1847. Her parents were well to do. Mormon missionaries coming to South Africa converted Jane's mother to Mormonism but not her father.

Mrs. Swift was consumed with the desire to join the Saints in Utah, so finally her husband consented to her going



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with her children to Utah. Mr. Swift did not accompany them here but he did provide his family with ample clothes, food, wagons and oxen to make the trip in comparative ease. Jane was sixteen years old when she landed with her family in New York. She walked most of the way across the plains.

When Jane arrived in Salt Lake she found the other girls wearing gingham dresses. Jane had a trunkful of dresses but they were all silk. She did so want a gingham dress but her mother would not get one for her. The silk dresses in Africa didn't cost any more than a gingham dress did in Salt Lake City. Jane got a job helping a woman who made men's pants and when she earned enough money she bought a gingham dress. When Jane wore her dress to the dance she was about the happiest she had ever been in her life for her dress was like the other girls.

Jane was a very good friend of Maude Adams. The Adamases lived across the street from Swifts and when Maude went on the stage, Jane donated her trunk full of silk dresses to her for the cast and that was how her silk dresses came to be worn out.

Jane married Mr. Van Tassel and went to live in the tenth ward in Salt Lake City, where she was a counselor in the Relief Society. It was while serving in this capacity she started nursing. Sister Van Tassel had no previous experience but she was a very spiritual woman and before she went into any home of sickness she always prayed for guidance and wisdom. She said the Lord never failed her. Other people in the homes where she went to nurse caught her spirit for they always felt comforted when she came.

When Mrs. Van Tassel came to Bench Creek, she was president of the Relief Society and she continued with her nursing. Although she was not a licensed midwife she had to serve in that capacity many times. She delivered all twelve of St Jeor's children. When this family had scarlet fever, Mrs. Van Tassel went there and nursed them through the epidemic. Two of the children died, then she helped Mr. St Jeor make their caskets. She made their burial clothes, washed and dressed them and put them in their caskets. Then she helped to lift the caskets through the window to the

men on the outside who took them to bury.

Mrs. Van Tassel was called to wait on patients from Bench Creek to Wanship and in Park City. She was called to treat all kinds of sickness and to set broken bones. For most of this work she received no pay but when people in Park City called her, they usually paid her a small fee.

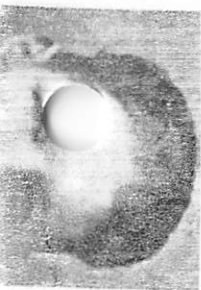
Mrs. Van Tassel had seven children and raised all of them. There is one other thing about Sister Van Tassel that would be interesting to note. Wm. Smith of the Francis ward went on a mission to South Africa. While there he met Sister Van Tassels father. He had remarried and had a large family by his second wife. He was also very wealthy, being the owner of a diamond mine.

Linda Atkinson came here as a bride in 1894, she was secretary of the Relief Society while Francis still belonged to the Woodland Ward. When the ward was devided Linda was chosen president of the Young Ladies Mutual Improvement association.

Linda went wherever she was called to nurse the sick. She sat up with the dead, keeping their bodies packed in ice, and ice cold cloths on their face. She made many burial clothes and helped wash and dress the dead. Also she helped to make the caskets, Orson Page made most of the caskets out of rough pine boards and the ladies under the direction of Mrs. Mary Neeley covered the casket with brocaded velvet. These materials could be bought at King's store in Kamas. All of this work was neighborly nobody thought of paying for it and nobody thought of being paid.

Linda waited on and cared for her mother who became blind in her later years. She also waited on old women months at a time and served as their companion. She went into homes and helped mothers with large families. She nursed mothers and sewed for nearly everyone in town. She helped people paper their houses or do anything else she could that would help. She is getting too old now to do nursing but she keeps house for herself and son.

Other people who went into the homes in early days and helped with sickness as long as they were needed were Bishop Mitchell ond Oscar Eskilson. These two men went especially



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where there were contagious diseases and stayed there until further help was not needed. If death occurred they would wash and lay out the body and keep it packed in ice with cold cloths on the face, until the body was laid away.

Mrs. Alice Atkinson, Fanny Page, Ursulla Smith and many of the other women sewed for the dead. Mr. and Mrs. Marion Corbett, Mr. Alma Page, Aunt Mary and Uncle Henry Atkinson, Amos and Linda Atkinson, Mr. Jack and Maria Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. F. Bradshaw, Mrs. Helen O'Driscoll, Hyrum and Jane Neibour, Mrs. Annie Jones, Mrs. Mary Neeley, Mrs. Emmeline Mitchell and Mrs. Malissia Eskilson, in fact any neighbor helped where he could.

In later years Sister Pearl Atkinson and Sister Linda Atkinson have nursed mothers and aided in sickness when other help was not to be had.

CANALS

In the early part of the 1870's the South Kamas irrigation Company was formed and water first brought through this canal, August 7, 1873. This was a very difficult project. Tommy Davis did the surveying and men were granted shares in the company according to the amount of work they did on the canal. The work was hard and slow. The canal was made four feet wide at the bottom. After it reached the bench the canal divided into two ditches, one going north, following the foothills toward Kamas and known as the Burbidge ditch; the other coming west along the south rim of the bench and ending on what is known as the Bradshaw farm. This ditch is called the Smith ditch.

As more settlers came, and ground was cleared and cultivated this canal proved inadequate so in 1890 the Washington Irrigation Company was formed. Samuel Gines Sr. did the surveying for this company, Joe Ketchum of Woodland was one of the directors. This canal was dug by contract at two dollars a yard and a man working as hard as he could in ten hour day was able to make no more than two dollars and fifty cents. James Ure Sr. wrote the articles of incorporation for this irrigation company. When water was turned into the new canal it leaked in places, like a sieve—these places had to be lined with clay in order to get the water over and

this process had to be repeated every year for many years until the difficulty was overcome. In the later part of the 1890's the Washington Irrigation Canal was enlarged as it came from the river on to the bench and both irrigation companies used the same canal. The Smith Ditch of the old company was enlarged and continued to west Kamas. These enlargements were done by assessments, each man paying according to the number of shares of stock he owned in the canal.

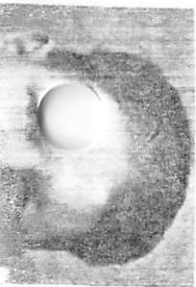
RAILROADS

In 1890 the Utah Central Railroad, promoted by John W. Young, began buying right of way for a railroad over Wolf Creek Pass into the Uintah Basin, Wm. Neibour sold them a right of way through his land for \$650; the grade was built from Hailstone to Woodland and ties were laid. The ties were cut in the mountains and floated down the Provo River during high water. This work was very dangerous, some of the men nearly losing their lives.

Hoping to receive some cash to increase the little they had, the men from Francis worked, many of them with their teams, on this project, getting out ties and making the grade. The railroad company went broke and not one of the men who worked received any pay. The grade still remains and many of the ties are still in use in the farmers' fences along the river bottoms.

By the time Cleveland's administration came to a close all the land in Francis had been homesteaded. Gradually the sage brush was grubbed and burned. Most men did their own but Tom Naylor and his wife used to hire out to grub sage brush. They cleared many farms. Tom Naylor was a plasterer and did much of the plastering and chimney building for the people of the settlement.

The first fences were built along the highways and were "worm" pole fences. After the fields were cleared of the crops in the fall the fields were declared open and everyone turned in his cattle for fall feed, regardless of how many cattle he owned or how many acres he might have. As years went by wire fences were built and each man fenced his own property—then livestock were supposed to be kept on the owner's property.



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CHURCH

Francis ward was organized November 11, 1899. Up until this time Francis was part of the Woodland ward which belonged to Woodland Stake. At this time both Francis and Woodland wards were transferred from the Wasatch Stake to the Summit Stake.

Francis M. Lyman was sent to organize the ward and Francis Ward was named for Apostle Lyman. Daniel Mitchell was chosen bishop, Marion Corbett, first counselor; Alma Page, second counselor. The Relief Society President was Alice Atkinson, Ursulla Smith, first counselor; Mrs. Webb, second counselor; Oscar Eskilson was first superintendent of the Sunday School.

The M. I. A. and Primary were organized on June 9, 1900, Oscar Eskilson was president of the young men and Linda Atkinson, president of the Young Women with Nora Pace, first counselor and Emmeline J. Mitchell second counselor. The Primary had Mary H. Neeley for president, Mary Ann Atkinson was first counselor and Emmeline J. Mitchell, second counselor, Pearl Atkinson, secretary and Maud Neely, asst. secretary.

After the new ward was organized there was need for a meeting house. So in the winter of 1900-1901 some of the men of the ward, under the leadership of the bishop went into the mountains and stayed until they had enough logs cut and sawed to erect the building. Some of the men who went into the mountains were Dan Mitchell, Alma Page, Marion Corbett, Jim Prescott, Henry Atkinson. The logs were cut and sawed in Pine Valley and brought out of the mountains ready for use. The building was completed in 1901 and on Thanksgiving of that year a big dinner was held in the church house. Everyone who could, brought turkey, and with the trimmings there was enough and to spare for everyone, young and old.

After the ward was organized "Officers Meeting" was held once a week at homes of members. Everyone went in a sleigh, singing all the way. In summer time they went in wagons, all standing up. After meeting was called each group would discuss their lesson, then practice singing. In homes

where there were organs music accompanied the singing, otherwise someone in the group led out. Games were played and refreshments served. This was held monthly on Wednesday night.

In about 1914 an Amusement Hall was built by the church, much of the lumber came from the mountains in the same way as for the church house. The men of Francis donated their work and the church put up the money that was needed, Mr. Fitch of Kamas was hired as head carpenter.

The church house was very inadequate, consisting of just one room so when the school house was abandoned because of consolidation the church bought the building and lot for the sum of one dollar. It was then remodeled and made into our present meeting house. The church house consists of an auditorium, a bishops room, a room for the Relief Society, one for the Scouts, and three others for class rooms, a large hall, furnace room, and two rest rooms.

The amusement hall has been torn down and the old church house turned into a recreation hall.

AMUSEMENT

What fun and amusement people had in early days they had to make for themselves.

Birthday parties were mostly surprise parties. Both young and old would join in and make a happy birthday.

Families would go to their friends for dinner and visit for a day and a night. In the evening the men would gather round the table and play cards—mostly High Five. The women would knit, make candy and pop corn. Sometimes a book was read. The children were put to bed usually on the floor in a "Mormon Bed."

The school nearly always put on a Christmas play, missionary farewell parties were held in the school house. At these parties the money raised was given to the missionary to help him on his mission.

DANCING

It seemed in spite of all the hardships of pioneering, Mormon people loved to dance, and Francis was no exception. They danced in people's homes and in the school house. When the church house was built they danced there. In 1915 an



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amusement hall was built. It was large enough to hire an orchestra from Salt Lake or Park City and the whole valley came to dance.

When people danced in the homes the furniture was set to one side, the removable furniture was set out, if there happened to be a rug, this was rolled up and everyone danced a Quadrill Waltz, or what not. A hot supper was served and many times they stayed until it was light. Wm Bates and a Kinsey boy furnished the music. Sometimes the music would come from the fiddle of Hen Walker who would walk about the valley with his violin, playing for dances. What ever the music, everyone had a good time.

The musicians for dances held in the school house were Parley H. Neeley, Hugh Neeley and Wm. Prescott.

Tickets to the dance were often paid for in produce.

Two days that the young people really enjoyed were Easter and May Day. Both young and old would gather and in a group would walk to the river or up to the foot hills, each taking his own lunch which consisted mostly of eggs, potatoes and meat. In large frying pans some of the older people would cook, and prepare lunch while the others played games. When dinner was cooked it was spread on a cloth on the ground and all enjoyed the grandest lunch ever eaten.

SCHOOL OF 1904



School of 1904
DRAMATICS

The first plays in our community were school plays put on by the school children. One outstanding play was under

the direction of Miss Laura Cook and Mammie Long. It was presented in Kamas and Coalville as well as in Francis. The name of the play was "My Country's Flag," Ethel Hunter took the part of George Washington, George Atkinson, a wounded soldier, Cora Page Prescott was the Angel of Mercy, all the other children had different parts.

After the church house was built dramatics superseded all other entertainment. Among the favorite plays produced were, "Ten Nights in a Bar Room," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Under Two Flags," "East Lynn." The main actors were Wm. Prescott, Aurella Richardson Smith, Martha Smith, Vera Smith, Parley H. Neeley, Susie O'Driscoll, Billy Smith, Hyrum Workman, Mr. Sanderson, Fred Mitchell, David Naibour, Bynin Mitchell, Ray Jones, Jim Neeley, Marion Workman, Wm. O'Driscoll, George Atkinson, Irvn Eskelson, Pearl Workman, Cora Page, Martha Page, May Corbett, Florence Corbett, Marion Corbett and Martha Corbett.

After the hall was built they put on "The Country Kid," Wilby Atkinson taking the part of "The Country Kid." The Relief Society put on two plays "The Quilting Party," and "Where Is My Wandering Boy Tonight." The ladies took the parts of the men characters. These plays were presented in the ward and then at Woodland and Oakley.

The Negro Minstrels were presented by a group of young men of the ward. They sang songs and told jokes. There was also a freak calf with five legs they had as a side show. It was alive and they led it round with a rope on its neck. The main characters were George Atkinson, Wilby Atkinson, Jud Mitchell, Danny Mitchell, Isac O'Driscoll and Dave Naibour.

The first choir was organized and held in the school house. Parley H. Neeley was the chorister and Martha Smith was organist. The choir continued after the church house was built. Later at different times, Vera Smith, Maude Neeley, Florence Padfield, and Florence Corbett were organists.

In 1905-06-07 Leon Fisher, a school teacher, organized and let a very fine choir. Ella Eskilson was organist.

SAWMILLS AND LUMBERING

Before farms were made to produce, the men of Francis supported their families by working in the timber and saw-



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mills that were in the mountains. These occupations have always supplemented the incomes from the farms and at present many men draw their incomes entirely from these sources.

Sawmills were built in the mountains close to where the timber was cut. There was one in Pine Valley where the lumber was sawed for the church house. This was run by John Jones. There was Benson's Mill, and the Pack boys had a sawmill. In 1885 Bill Pace owned a saw mill in Little South Fork. In 1886 he moved this mill to the foot hills above his home east of Francis. Water from a spring was turned into steam to run the mill.

Francis people logged and had their timber sawed at all of these mills. The lumber was used to build their homes; was hauled to Park City for the mines, and some of it was sold to the lumber companies in Park City and Salt Lake City.

Parley Neeley operated a sawmill on the river below Lemon's Grove on what is now the Victory Ranch and the first shingle mill in the valley was owned by Chraleay Russell and was located on Wolf Creek at what is known as the Keller Tramway.

There was a tie camp at Broad Head mountain. Some of the men from Francis worked at this camp for a period of two years. There the ties were cut, sawed, split and floated down the Provo River during high water.

Timber was cut on the steep slopes of the mountains and most of the roads were very narrow, steep, and dangerous. At one time Hyrum Workman went to the mountains very early in the morning for a load of lumber, with a four horse team. Coming back Hyrum stepped off his wagon, his team started out and with no one to hold them back, the wagon pushed on them, and they started running down the canyon. When Hyrum caught up to them they were all piled in a heap; one horse was dead and others badly cut up, one in such a condition they had to shoot him.

At another time this same man was coming down with a load of lumber. A strap on his harness broke but in some way the horses were able to hold the wagon until it could be run into the side of the hill and stopped

In those days everyone got up early to get to the mill to get loaded and home before dark. Many of them left at three o'clock in the morning. The next morning they would start at two o'clock to deliver their loads in Park City.

Timbering still serves to offer employment for a number of people in Francis. At the present time there are two sawmills operating in Francis, one owned by Dale Leavitt, the other by Ted Peterson. In the winter time when snow is too deep to get into the mountains, the cotton woods along the banks of the Provo River are cut. For this type of lumber they find a market at the Geneva Steel Plant.

PICTURE OF FIRST SCHOOL SCHOOLS

In 1887 the first school was held in Francis in one room of John (Jack) Richardson's home. It was a long, low house made from logs, hued square by axes. They were about one foot thick. This part of the house had two rooms. Hyrum Workman and his family lived in the south room and school was held in the north room. On the west was a long room a lean-to, in which Jack Richardson and his family lived.

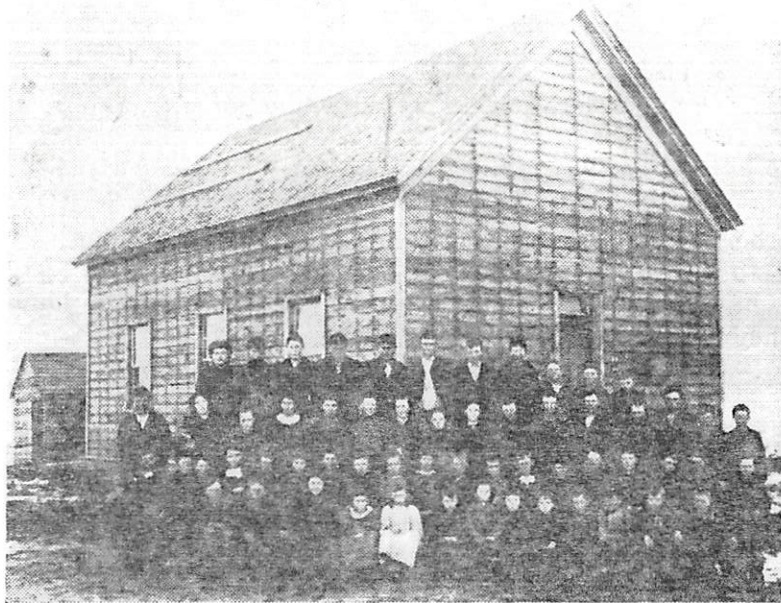
The Richardson's home was on the south side of Spring Hollow a quarter of a mile south of the Francis corner. The teacher was Georgana Neibour; Auritta Richardson, Lesley O'Driscoll, William O'Driscoll, Rachel and Nellie Smith were some of the students. The children sat on rough benches and were taught writing, spelling and some arithmetic.

In 1888-89 school was held in a small log cabin north from the Francis corner, Maud Harder was the teacher. A Miss Newman taught in 1890-91. Alph Atkinson, Asa Atkinson, Hugh Neeley, Dannie Mitchell, Ed Eskelson, Charley Workman, Pearl Workman, Dee Workman, George Atkinson, Isac O'Driscoll, Susie O'Driscoll were some of the students who attended this school.

School was discontinued on the bench while a new school building was being constructed. Those who wished went to the Woodland school on the Provo River. The school stood near the site of the present school. This was in 1891-92. Miss Elwell was the teacher with Ettie (Coe) Gines as an assistant.



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First School House—built in 1892
—Picture taken in 1894

Francis

The new school house was a one room log house built on the site that Mr. Eskelson donated, one acre of land. The first teacher here was Miss Arnold. She taught school three years, 1892-1893-1894. She had about ninety students enrolled. Miss Laura Cook taught for three years with an enrollment of 104, all in one room.

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Pearl Workman Atkinson, a student at the school, writes—"One day while we were all busy, studying, one joint of the pipe came loose and came down with a bang, hot, and full of soot, which frightened us all. Luckily no one was hurt but some were like negroes. In those days the small children were seated in front and the large ones at the back of the room. At the time the pipe fell we small ones were at the board. If this had not been so I might have been hurt as the falling pipe hit my desk. The two ends that were up were hanging

just slanting enough to let the soot pour out of both ends over my desk. I cried because my slate got broken. It had just been given to me, new.

"This was my first winter at school. I had gone two falls but when it got too stormy I stayed at home as we lived so far from school. The wild animals, as well as the Indians, were too dangerous for me to go alone. My two brothers and I were going to school one morning, wading through snow drifts up to our waists, as there were no snow plows in those days and very few houses between our home and Crittenden's corner. In fact there was only one.

Charley Woodard lived in a log cabin where Earl lives today. We each carried a long stick and were hitting the snow when up jumped two of the prettiest dogs! They trotted up toward the hills where Tom McNeil now lives. Later some men killed two cougars up by Woodland, which we found out were our pretty dogs. Our guardian Angel must have been with us that day.

"When Miss Cook taught she would have one of the older girls help her, Miss Mamie Long did it most of the time. She and Miss Cook wrote a play called "My Country" which the school put on. It was very touching and very well rendered by the full school of 104 students.

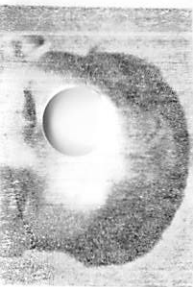
"Mr. John Bradford taught the next three years. Then the people decided they needed more rooms so they moved the advanced grades to the church house. Mr. Bradford taught the last of his three years in the church house. They moved a frame building which had been used for a saloon, from Kamas to the west side of the old building and then hired two teachers.

When they built the new school house that is now converted into the church house they sold the frame building to the Relief Society and it was later sold to Axel Prescott who joined it on his home. The log part of the building, Lorn Prescott bought and today it is being used for a barn.

School districts at that time were under trusteeship, George Elis, Bill Smith, and Parley Neeley were the first trustees.

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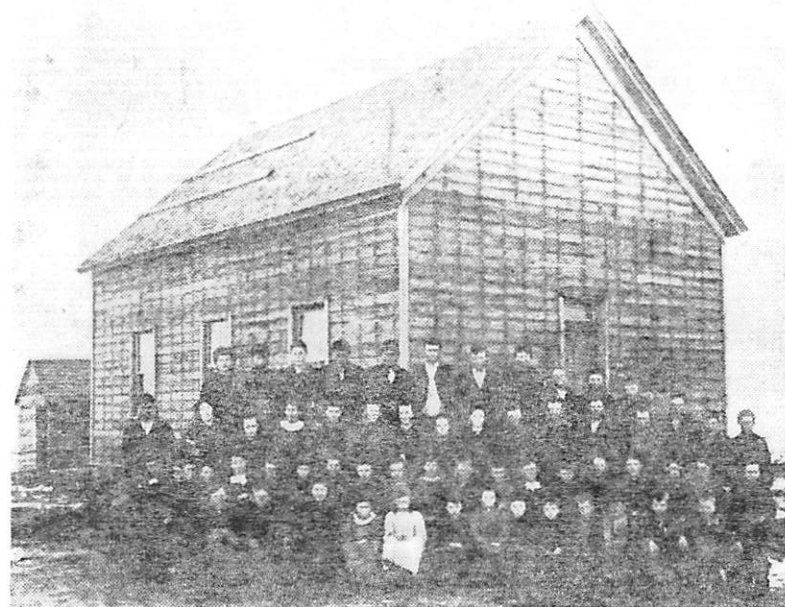
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WARD
UPON THE MOUNTAINS



FAITH OF OUR FATHERS



First School House—built in 1892
—Picture taken in 1894

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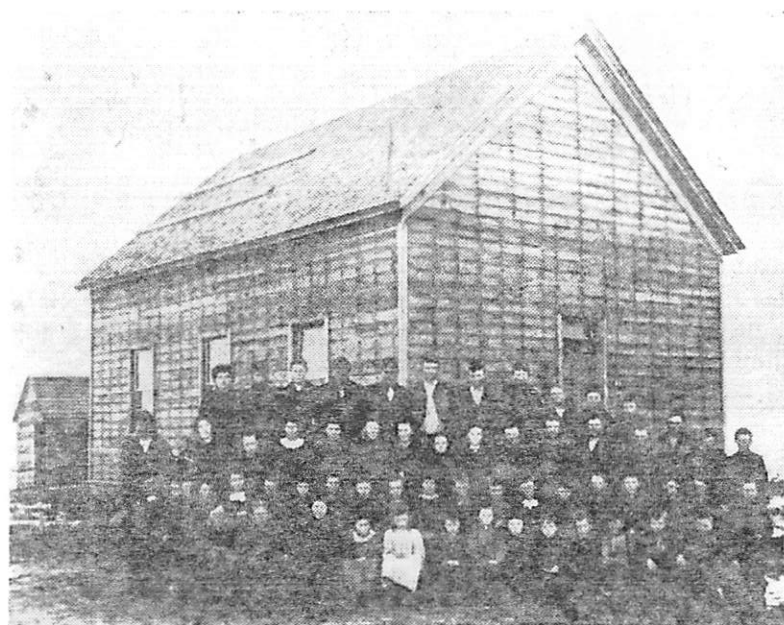
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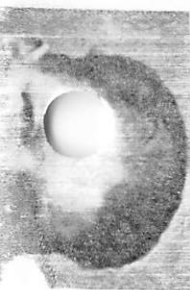
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UPON THE MOUNTAINS



FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

to us. Usually she read it first thing so all would be sure to be early.

"We always had a yearly sleigh ride to look forward to. We also had spelling matches. Our school would visit other schools and try to spell down their best spellers. This was quite a thing to get us to learn to spell. Our out door games were round tag, and base ball, or rounders, as we called it. Both old and young would play, even our teachers.

"Each child would bring his or her lunch in a lard bucket. Some large families would bring their lunch all together in a ten quart pail. Our desks were large enough so that two could sit in them. Always one class sat in a group. Some of the boys delighted in sitting behind the girls so they could tease by tying their hair braids to the seat or to each other so that when the girls got up quickly to answer a question or to go to class their heads would nearly snap off. Some children came to school on horses, some in carts or sleighs but my brothers and I nearly always walked the two miles, summer and winter."

Three prominent trustees of the Francis school were Jim Prescott, Annie M. Jones and Tommy Davis.

Mr. Prescott and Mrs. Jones served on the school board twelve years; Mr. Davis for eight years. While they were administering the affairs of the school a new three room cement block building was built.

The valley now felt the need for further education and so consolidated in order to build a High School. Mr. Prescott was chosen to represent Francis in this venture and was very much interested in its development. When he would look at the building and think of the advantages these children would have his heart would swell with pride and he would pronounce the new high school as the most beautiful building he had ever seen.

As there were six communities interested in the high school and the state law specified that the school board should consist of but five members, Mr. Prescott suggested that Francis and Woodland share the same board member and he resigned in favor of Mr. Jim Knight of Woodland.

Later as Francis and Woodland grew, they were given a board member, each, and Peoa and Marion, being the two

smallest communities, share the same board member.

Tommy Davis was the secretary and treasurer of the Francis trustee board, being exceptionally good in figures.

In 1936 a junior high school was built at Kamas and the seventh and eighth grades were sent there. Then in 1937 after some fierce opposition the district was completely consolidated and all the children sent to Kamas.

In 1930 a six week summer kindergarten was established but discontinued during the war years to be resumed again in 1945.

PACE CREAMERY

In the late 90's Bill Pace built a creamery in a hollow east of town. Steam was used to operate this creamery. The water was obtained from a spring farther up in the mountain. The creamery started to operate June 14, 1897 and continued for four years. Milk paid for was by the hundred pound and not by butter fat content.

This creamery was built of lumber with a small room on the east and a larger one on the west. The east room was elevated about six feet above the other to make unloading and handling of the milk easier. In this room was a pair of scales for weighing, and a vat into which the milk was dumped. Over this vat was a muslin cover through which the milk was strained. Many a baby's shoe, a stocking or two, spoons, sticks, toys, or what not were strained from the milk. The reason for these things being in the milk was that in the winter time people kept the milk in their kitchens to keep it from freezing; and to keep milk sweet, the lid was left off the milk can for ventilation. Babies could easily climb up and drop whatever they happened to have in their hands into the can, and the farmers, not knowing, would send the milk to the creamery.

In the large west room of the creamery was a vat. The milk from the vat up in the east room was run into this second vat. The milk was then separated in the large separator the skim milk being returned to the farmers to feed to their calves and pigs. The cream was churned to butter in a large churn which was in the west room with the separator. Both the separator and the churn were turned by steam power. After



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the cream was turned to butter the buttermilk was drained off and the butter, still in the churn, was washed thoroughly with cool water. The butter was turned out on a table, moisture was worked out and salt worked into it by another machine run by steam power. The butter was next cut into pounds, wrapped in butter paper then placed in boxes ready for market.

Much of this butter was marketed in Park City and Salt Lake City. Some was bought by the producers. The first load of butter was taken to Salt Lake City for the jubilee held July 24th, the year Utah celebrated Statehood.

Mr. Pace took the load of butter to Salt Lake in a covered wagon, taking his older children and their cousins with him for the celebration.

The farmers were paid for their milk once a month or they could draw groceries, dry goods or hardware from his store for their pay. Solen Sorenson, Nathen Vernon and Hyrum Workman, Ed Sorsensen were the first milk haulers. The milk was gathered throughout the valley with teams hitched to wagons in the summer and to sleighs in the winter.

Martha Hoyt Myrick was the first butter maker. In fact she ran the whole creamery, from the testing and weighing of milk to the packing of the butter. Martha was a graduate from the Agricultural College at Logan where she had studied dairying and had learned to care for milk and to manufacture its products. She lived with her family across the valley in Marion, but she was persuaded to live with the Pace family and take charge of the creamery.

Mrs. Myrick now lives in Salt Lake City. Talking about the creamery Mrs. Myrick said that she got up at peep of day, usually at five A.M.; made a fire and got steam up in the boiler ready for work. She worked from early until late, sometimes if things went wrong until midnight. At times she was through in the early afternoon. Her quitting time was when all the milk and butter had been processed. Nothing was held over until the next day. Before the summer was over the creamery was producing over two hundred pounds of butter a day.

Mrs. Myrick said the work was very hard as she had

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to lift all of the cans of milk, herself. Many times she was going to quit but stayed on because Mr. Pace always promised in a day or two, to get a boy to help with the heavy lifting; but the boy never came and because he didn't come, Mrs. Myrick quit, after she had been there over a year.

Mrs. Myrick tested the milk by the Babcock tester. Some of the people thought it was impossible to tell the butter content of the milk. Some of the producers skimmed their milk before sending, a few others watered their milk. Mr. Pace had confidence in the people and didn't believe they would do such things. One man was a persistent violator but Mr. Pace was quite sure he wouldn't try to sell water for milk.

One morning, some long, wiggly angleworms were strained from the milk. Mrs. Myrick said that she showed these to Mr. Pace and said "I'm sure these didn't come from the cow's bag." The worms had been dipped up with the water from the ditch.

Because of these practices and losses in marketing, after four years, Mr. Pace was forced to close his creamery.

STORES

Mr. Bill Pace, in the early eighties before he built his store, kept supplies in his home. He traded these for cream, butter, eggs, timber, hay, flour or most anything. He also represented the Consolidated Wagon and Machine Co. and sold farm machinery, harnesses etc. Then about 1885 he built a store at the foot of the hills on the road going to Woodland. This, he operated until about 1902 or 1903. There he again traded groceries, dry goods, etc. for produce which he sold in Park City and Salt Lake City. This was a log structure, it was later moved and the present time is on the premises of Don Gines. He uses it for a machine shed.

Next, Jed Woodard had a trading post on the corner of his lot where his home was. Here people could exchange produce for hardware, dry goods or other produce. He operated this trading post for about ten years.

In 1914 the Francis Store was built by Milton Richardson and Carlos Lambert on the east side of the street. Later it was moved to the place where the present store stands. One was able to buy groceries, dry goods and some hardware.

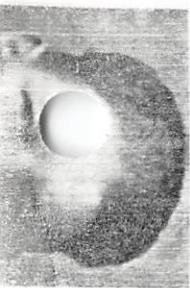
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of Francis

Mr. Richardson owned the store until the time he was drafted into world war one. At that time he sold out to T. Atkinson, who sold to Alph McNeil; then Alph sold to George Atkinson and for a while John Joseph and Sam Maulouf rented a neat new store now stands in its place. It was owned by Atkinson and Wm. Thomas, Mr. Thomas being the one who could buy

gas, oil, notions, confections, beer, and the care of his in a defense plant at Provo and left it was obtained wife and Mrs. Atkinson. Because Theron Atkinson groceries the store was closed Mrs. Atkinson again in 1945 it was under the mess is growing son and his mother, Pearl, for the men owns and manages the store of the times, of everyday.

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In 1936 the old store was torn down and a neat new store now stands in its place. It was owned by Pearl Atkinson and Wm. Thomas, Mr. Thomas being the manager.

It was called "Crossroads Grocery." In it one could buy

gas, oil, notions, confections, beer, and light lunch.

When war was declared in 1941 Mr. Thomas went to work in a defense plant at Provo and left the store to the care of his wife and Mrs. Atkinson. Because of the difficulty in obtaining groceries the store was closed in 1943. When it was opened again in 1945 it was under the management of Theron Atkinson and his mother, Pearl Atkinson. Today Mrs. Atkinson owns and manages the store herself and business is growing everyday.

The country store was the gathering place for the men to congregate and discuss the happenings of the times,—of the community, state, and nation. At one time or another all the world has been discussed and a remedy, advocated. Many a bet has been made concerning whose horse could pull the most; who possessed greater physical strength, etc. The men still gather at the country store and hold heir public forums.